Allocation of Book Stall

1246. SHRI GAYA SINGH Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to refer to answer to Starred Question 26 given in the Rajya Sabha on 24th February, 1993 and to state:

(a) whether the existing policy for allotment of book stalls on Indian Railways is being followed since 1973 continuously at stations as well as on the Passenger Platforms constructed on or after 1st January, 1976; and

(b) what are the names of stations where additional (Seventeen) bookstalls have been allotted to A.H. Wheeler and Company ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.C. LENKA) : (a) and (b) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Railway Tracks Intersecting National Highways

1247. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in Karna taka there are many rail tracks inter secting National Highways which cause traffic hold-ups for longer dur ations and if so, the number of such level crossings;

(b) in view of the delay caused by such hold-ups in terms of wasted time, delays in transportation of road-using passengers and freight carriers as also fuel on idling vehicles, whether" Government propose to take up construction of overbridges/under bridges *on* these level crossings;

(c) whether Government are aware that continuance of such level cros-insgs on national highways pose dan-gers of accident/collision resulting in loss of human lives; and

(d) if so, what steps are proposed to be taken in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.C. LENKA): (a) There are total of 40 level crossings on National Highways in Karnataka. Railways are not aware about hold up of road traffic as the management of road traffic on National Highways is the responsibility of Ministry of Surface Transport.

(b) to (d) Busy level crossings (those having more than 1 lakh train vehicle units, a figure obtained by multiplying number of trains passing in 24 hours by the road traffic) are considered for replacement by road over/under bridge provided proposal therefor is sponsored by the State Government/ ' Road authority duly consenting to sharing of cost as per rules.

Promotion to Horticulture Inspector

1248. SHRI VISHWAS RAO RAMRAO PATIL : SHRI RAMENDRA KUMAR YADAV RAVI :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware about the litigation No. T.A. No. 973 of 1987, in which a request was made to give promotion to Horticulture Inspector in the grade of Rs. 550-900;

(b) if so, the number of employees involved in it;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the conclusion was in favour of the employees; and

(d) if so, what steps have been taken by Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.C. LENKA): (a) Yes, Sir. However, the grade was Rs. 425-700 and not 550-900.

(b) One

(c) and (d) In accordance with the directions of the Central Administrative Tribunal, Allahabad the claim of the affected employee has been reconsidered by the administration and rejected.

Book stalls allotted to A.H. Wheeler & Co.

1249. SHRI GAYA SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 3461 given in Rajya Sabha on 16th December, 1992 and to state:

(a) what are the details of bookstalls (with name of Stations) allotted to A.H. Wheeler & Co. without adopting normal set procedure by calling applications through Press Notification; and

(b) what are the details of Stations (with names) where bookstalls allotted through normal set procedure ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.C. LENKA): (a) and (b) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Road Accideats

1250. SHRI VIREN J. SHAH :

SHRr PRAMOD MAHAJAN :
SHRI SUNDER SINGH BHANDAR1:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that about 60,000 people die in the country every year, in road accidents;

(b) whether it is a fact that Delhi leads highest fatality rate in road accidents;

(c) if so, what are the details of persons killed and injured in road accidents (State-wise) during each of the last three years;

(d) what preventive steps/precautions Government have taken or propose to take to minimise the load accidents:

(e) whether Government propose to introduce air bag facility in the cars; and

(f) if so, what are the details including its cost and advantages to the occupants of the cars in cases of accidents ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) In 1992, around 57,000 persons were killed in road accidents.

(b) and (c) No, Sir. A statement of details of persons killed and injured in road accidents (State-wise) during each of the last three years is enclosed in statements 1 & II *(see* Below).

(d) The steps taken/being taken for promoting road safety are given in Annexure-II.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) Does not arise.